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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 64 NUMBER 15

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FOR RELEASE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

The Egyptian Government announced on April 3 that from that date it would purchase all cotton offered for sale at prices previously stated as the support prices for Karnak July futures and Ashmouni August future s. These prices are equivalent to 72.25 U.S. cents a pound for Karnak, Good, and 41.62 cents for Ashmouni, Good.

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The 1951-52 cotton crop in northern Belgian Congo, with picking recently completed, is estimated at about 119,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), about 20 percent above the previous season's crop of 99,000 bales. The southern crop, with picking to begin in June, is expected to be about normal (100,000 bales), giving a total 1951-52 production in the Belgian Congo of 220,000 bales, compared with the 197,000 bales produced in 1950-51.

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The 1951-52 production of cotton in French Equatorial Africa is expected to result in a record crop of about 140,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), somewhat above earlier estimates of 115,000 bales, and considerably higher than the 1950-51 crop of 93,000 bales.

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Exports of cotton from the United States in February totaled 588,000 running bales, including the following destinations and amounts; India, 152,000 bales; Italy, 79,000, United Kingdom 74,000; Japan, 72,000; Germany, 44,000; Canada 28,000; Belgium 18,000; France, 16,000; Formosa, 16,000; Yugoslavia, 14,000 and the Netherlands, 10,000. United States exports of cotton linters in February totaled 32,000 running bales, including 14,000 to the United Kingdom, 6,000 to France, 5,000 to Germany, 4,000 to Japan, 1,000 to Canada and 1,000 to Switzerland.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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REVIEW OF THE 1951-52 CORN CROP

World corn production in 1951-52 is estimated at 5.3 billion bushels, on the basis of the latest information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Though 75 million bushels smaller than the previous forecast, this is 175 million bushels larger than the 1950-51 total and 570 million above the prewar average (1935-39). A large part of the increase over the previous crop is reported for Europe, where the harvest is back at the prewar level and about 38 percent above the small 1950 crop. An increase of about 75 million bushels estimated for Asia, offsets a decrease of that amount in North America's production.

Reduced supplies for export are indicated for the principal exporting countries. A reduced carry-over added to the smaller crop brings the total United States supply for the year beginning October 1951 about 230 million bushels below the supply for the preceding year. With reduced supplies and a continued active domestic demand, corn for export is expected to be somewhat less than the 110 million bushels exported last season. The supply in the Argentine will again be small and no significant exports can be expected, especially since supplies of small grains fall short of normal requirements. On the other hand, crops are considerably larger than those of a year ago in Europe and Asia, and world imports shoudl be somewhat less.

The North American corn total is still estimated at 3,150 million bushels, 75 million bushels less than the 1950 harvest. The decrease was mainly in the United States crop with part of that decline offset by an increase in Mexico. Total acreage for the continent shows little change from the 1950 acreage.

Production in Europe is still estimated at 690 million bushels, up 190 million bushels from the small harvest last year. Most of the increase is estimated for the Balkan countries where drought reduced the corn crop sharply in 1950. Good increases were also reported for Italy and France. It now appears that the outturn in the Soviet Union was not quite up to the 1950 harvest, since drought in important growing areas reduced yields.

The corn crop in Asia is placed at 660 million bushels, 13 percent above the total for 1950. Increases were general in all major producing countries as a result of larger acreage and yields. The estimate for Africa is somewhat smaller than earlier forecasts indicated. The reduction occurred in the estimate for the Union of South Africa. Early-season forecasts for that Southern Hemisphere country were very optomistic, and a crop up to the high level of the past 2 seasons had been forecast. Severe drought reduced the outturn sharply, however, and the present estimate of 57.5 million bushels would be the smallest harvest since 1935.

(Continued on Page 329)

CORN: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-1951 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	172	273	272	306	300	40.8	39.7	50.2	45.2	52.2	7,010	10,833	13,650	13,839	15,662
Guatemala	1,000	1,060	-	-	-	15.7	15.8	-	-	-	15,700	16,760	-	-	-
Honduras	5/ 258	5/ 319	-	-	-	5/ 14.0	5/ 13.4	-	-	-	3,717	5/ 4,262	-	-	-
Mexico	7,501	8,416	9,880	9,880	10,380	9.0	9.6	9.2	10.0	12.9	67,523	80,714	90,550	98,420	133,850
Nicaragua	5/ 86	5/ 132	180	200	-	5/ 17.4	5/ 11.3	13.3	16.0	-	1,500	5/ 1,486	2,400	3,200	-
United States	92,699	89,045	87,029	81,817	81,306	25.0	32.0	38.8	37.4	36.2	2,315,554	2,846,337	3,379,436	3,057,803	2,941,423
Cuba	360	376	445	410	-	16.7	5/ 16.6	16.0	15.9	-	6,000	5/ 6,250	7,100	6,500	-
Estimated total 6/	103,280	101,060	100,850	95,720	95,750	-	-	-	-	-	2,435,000	2,990,000	3,536,000	3,225,000	3,150,000
EUROPE															
Albania	235	246	-	-	-	21.6	19.7	-	-	-	5,067	4,837	-	-	-
Austria	163	162	144	160	160	39.2	31.2	32.6	31.2	34.4	6,384	5,053	4,700	5,000	5,500
Bulgaria	2,035	1,980	-	-	-	17.5	14.7	-	-	-	35,657	29,204	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	5/ 285	245	380	-	-	5/ 31.6	27.3	32.9	-	-	5/ 9,000	6,695	12,500	-	-
France	839	620	714	803	843	26.3	18.9	12.6	20.5	28.6	22,096	11,700	9,000	16,500	24,100
Germany	85	51	-	-	-	47.1	43.1	-	-	-	4,000	2,200	-	-	-
Greece	650	529	553	614	624	15.5	16.5	15.8	12.5	13.9	10,078	8,743	8,750	7,680	8,660
Hungary	2,924	3,167	-	-	-	31.5	32.8	-	-	-	92,007	103,974	-	-	-
Italy	3,583	3,436	3,250	3,260	3,300	31.5	28.1	32.7	30.1	35.8	113,000	96,400	106,300	98,000	118,000
Portugal	1,235	-	1,194	1,220	1,245	12.1	-	7.9	15.5	13.4	15,000	-	9,430	18,960	16,640
Rumania	9,870	8,300	-	-	-	17.4	18.1	-	-	-	172,000	150,000	-	-	-
Spain	5/ 1,094	1,050	865	925	925	5/ 28.4	23.8	18.5	25.9	28.6	5/ 31,076	25,000	16,000	24,000	26,500
Yugoslavia	6,615	6,790	-	-	-	26.7	23.4	-	-	-	176,600	159,000	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	29,680	27,920	28,530	28,370	28,790	-	-	-	-	-	695,000	622,000	620,000	500,000	690,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	10,000	-	8,500	9,000	-	17.0	-	16.5	16.7	-	170,000	-	140,000	150,000	-
ASIA															
Turkey	1,098	1,408	1,484	1,466	1,526	20.9	20.4	19.2	16.9	21.7	22,971	28,661	28,520	24,720	33,156
Burma	217	5/ 212	196	-	-	7.6	5/ 6.6	-	-	-	1,640	5/ 1,390	-	-	-
China	5/ 12,000	14,200	12,300	-	-	5/ 21.8	19.9	20.7	-	-	5/ 262,000	282,600	255,220	-	-
Manchuria	3,720	6,231	-	-	-	23.3	21.5	-	-	-	86,586	133,858	-	-	-
French Indochina	1,053	5/ 778	-	-	-	21.2	5/ 14.6	-	-	-	22,365	5/ 13,188	-	-	-
Indian Union 7/	5/ 5,526	5,643	7,837	7,600	-	5/ 12.2	13.2	10.0	9.2	-	5/ 67,240	74,240	78,360	70,000	-
Pakistan 7/	5/ 811	884	1,004	950	-	5/ 17.7	17.3	16.9	15.5	-	5/ 14,360	15,264	16,920	14,720	-
Japan	128	162	140	150	-	24.2	22.8	18.6	22.0	-	3,094	3,700	2,600	3,300	-
Korea	5/ 321	375	-	-	-	5/ 13.0	12.0	-	-	-	5/ 4,177	4,500	-	-	-
Java and Madura	5,150	5,160	-	-	-	15.5	15.9	-	-	-	79,976	82,200	-	-	-
Philippine Republic	1,765	2,442	2,140	2,246	2,355	8.9	9.8	11.2	10.1	10.1	15,715	23,967	24,000	22,587	23,750
Estimated total 6/	33,920	39,710	38,620	37,350	38,630	-	-	-	-	-	610,000	695,000	630,000	585,000	660,000

AFRICA															
Belgian Congo	5/ 179	329	825	823	-	5/ 19.6	17.8	14.3	15.8	-	3,500	5,860	11,800	13,000	-
Kenya 8/	103	102	-	-	-	30.3	24.0	-	-	-	3,121	2,453	-	-	-
Basutoland	350	360	-	-	-	8.1	7.5	-	-	-	2,822	2,709	-	-	-
Egypt	1,599	1,646	1,550	1,535	1,720	39.5	30.7	32.3	33.2	32.6	63,229	56,685	50,000	51,000	56,000
French Morocco	1,112	1,251	1,243	1,290	1,210	7.6	7.9	12.7	4.7	6.0	8,505	9,863	15,743	6,000	7,300
French West Africa	5/ 1,732	1,500	-	-	-	5/ 12.4	13.3	-	-	-	5/ 21,473	20,000	-	-	-
Madagascar	260	172	186	197	-	15.3	12.9	12.9	14.7	-	3,969	2,213	2,404	2,900	-
Angola	1,435	1,470	-	-	-	9.0	8.3	-	-	-	12,859	12,180	-	-	-
Southern Rhodesia 8/	268	243	-	-	-	22.1	21.1	-	-	-	5,923	5,116	-	-	-
Union of South Africa	6,989	7,657	8,100	8,000	-	11.5	9.4	12.8	12.1	-	80,132	71,711	104,000	97,000	57,500
Estimated total 6/	18,200	19,280	20,130	20,130	19,910	-	-	-	-	-	255,000	240,000	280,000	272,000	240,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	10,775	8,176	2,330	4,400	5,200	28.0	31.7	14.3	23.4	23.1	301,986	259,124	33,230	103,000	120,000
Brazil	10,025	10,208	11,560	-	-	21.5	20.3	21.0	-	-	215,153	207,438	242,500	237,100	250,000
Chile	110	126	114	137	-	22.7	20.7	21.1	27.0	-	2,496	2,603	2,400	3,700	-
Colombia	5/ 1,360	1,440	1,747	1,710	-	5/ 15.1	16.0	16.6	13.5	-	19,511	22,969	29,040	23,030	-
Uruguay	425	420	470	460	-	12.2	10.9	7.5	13.3	-	5,188	4,573	3,510	6,100	-
Estimated total 6/	24,930	22,640	18,650	20,300	21,400	-	-	-	-	-	575,000	530,000	350,000	410,000	440,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	314	298	191	182	-	22.4	25.1	29.5	24.5	-	7,030	7,482	5,631	4,450	-
New Zealand	7	8	8	5	-	45.4	51.8	57.9	50.0	-	318	414	463	250	-
Estimated total 6/	325	310	205	190	200	-	-	-	-	-	7,450	8,000	6,200	4,800	4,500
World total 6/	220,340	217,920	215,490	211,060	213,680	-	-	-	-	-	4,750,000	5,190,000	5,560,000	5,145,000	5,320,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1951 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began early in 1952. 2/ Figures refer to harvested area as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for the Southern Hemisphere revised preliminary forecasts. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Figures shown during this period are not strictly comparable since figures for 1949-51 include allowances for non-reporting areas, which were not included with earlier figures shown, but were included in estimated total for Asia. 8/ Cultivation on European holdings only. Allowances for native cultivation, not shown, are included in estimated total for Africa.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

WORLD APPLE AND PEAR CROPS DOWN IN 1951

World Apple Production Drops 29 Percent

World apple production (including cider apples) is now estimated at 507 million bushels in 1951 compared with 715 million bushels in 1950 (revised) and the prewar (1935-39) average of 498 million bushels. Excluding cider apples, the crop is now estimated at 415 million bushels in 1951 compared with 487 million bushels in 1950 (revised) and the prewar average of 334 million bushels. Major changes in the estimates from earlier forecasts have been made for some countries such as reductions in 1951 for the United States and France (particularly cider apples in France) and increases in Germany (due to a new tree census) and in Italy.

The North American apple crop in 1951 was the smallest since 1948 and now is estimated at 129 million bushels compared with 141 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 143 million. Both Canada and the United States had smaller crops in 1951 than in the previous two seasons. Both also normally produce apples for export largely to Europe but because of the relatively short crop in 1951 and the difficult dollar exchange situation in the historical markets, the seasonal export business was somewhat reduced.

Europe, the historical export outlet for United States and Canadian apples, had a relatively large crop in 1951 but it was not as large as in 1950. The total crop is now estimated at 332 million bushels compared with 516 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 322 million bushels. Excluding cider apples the crop totaled 240 million bushels in 1951 compared with 288 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 158 million. Apple production in Europe generally has been expanding for a number of years and since the close of hostilities has advanced rapidly. There has also been considerable improvement in market varieties and quality of fruit in many countries. As compared with the previous season significant declines in Austria, Germany, France, Switzerland and Scandinavia more than offset increases in Greece, Italy, Yugoslavia, Spain, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

For the remainder of the apple producing world the major changes in production in 1951 compared with 1950 occurred in Japan, Turkey and Argentina where production declined significantly.

World Pear Production 22 Percent Smaller

World pear production (including cider pears) is now estimated to total 150 million bushels in 1951 compared with 193 million in 1950 and the prewar (1935-39) average of 131 million bushels. Excluding ciders the crop is estimated at 129 million bushels in 1951 compared with 151 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 103 million.

APPLES: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1948-51

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	14,560	13,459	13,404	18,151	16,166	13,804
Mexico	1,231	1,831	2,073	2,151	2,170	2,205
United States	127,311	113,787	88,407	133,742	123,126	112,935
Total	143,102	129,077	103,884	154,044	141,462	128,944
EUROPE						
Austria:						
Dessert and cooking	7,095	4,624	10,242	9,645	9,645	8,514
Cider	6,291	4,101	5,374	3,215	6,889	3,382
Belgium and Luxembourg	5,721	6,482	3,704	19,003	14,553	14,491
Bulgaria	1,117	3,617	1,500	2,000	1,700	2,000
Czechoslovakia	6,931	4,326	12,242	10,775	9,100	10,000
Denmark	2,818	4,593	11,482	6,889	12,860	8,497
Finland	1,008	503	826	367	184	500
France:						
Dessert and cooking	10,499	9,724	13,411	16,796	18,934	13,208
Cider	153,973	114,570	72,323	118,118	216,112	84,514
Germany:						
Western Zone	36,116	34,099	36,300	41,700	79,300	47,950
Eastern Zone	10,788	7,676	8,100	9,300	17,650	10,700
Greece	374	564	1,405	1,539	1,240	1,323
Hungary	2,145	1,148	2,067	3,123	2,600	3,100
Italy	12,923	14,786	17,379	30,948	24,292	33,195
Netherlands	3,631	4,048	7,946	19,474	12,681	16,268
Norway	1,080	798	1,654	717	2,704	1,939
Poland and Danzig	8,200	6,600	6,900	7,300	7,500	6,000
Rumania	3,255	3,754	2,296	4,500	3,800	4,000
Spain	5,411	6,603	3,996	4,134	3,878	4,180
Sweden	4,770	3,809	8,038	7,762	9,691	6,889
Switzerland	16,452	25,353	29,854	11,942	30,313	12,860
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking	10,597	13,831	17,873	24,005	20,911	27,921
Cider	3,427	3,256	3,948	5,026	5,119	4,667
Yugoslavia	7,098	9,187	5,000	7,865	4,700	6,000
Total	321,720	288,052	283,860	366,143	516,356	332,098
Total (excluding cider)	158,029	166,125	202,215	239,784	288,236	239,535
ASIA						
Israel	65	118	233	291	138	225
Lebanon	2/ 104	260	459	551	597	781
Syria	3/ -	84	257	230	299	207
Turkey	5,149	3,676	3,530	5,248	5,760	4,492
Japan	7,624	10,372	13,566	16,659	20,125	12,037
Korea	3,220	5,501	3,200	2,000	1,000	1,000
Total	16,162	20,011	21,245	24,979	27,919	18,742
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	1,400	6,135	8,700	9,800	14,200	12,500
Chile	1,025	591	877	852	902	802
Total	2,425	6,726	9,577	10,652	15,102	13,302
AFRICA						
Tunisia	115	136	161	138	138	140
Union of South Africa	1,142	1,125	1,250	1,499	1,499	1,875
Total	1,257	1,261	1,411	1,637	1,637	2,015
OCEANIA						
Australia	10,435	11,787	8,313	8,835	9,610	9,100
New Zealand	2,875	2,373	2,853	3,044	2,954	3,046
Total	13,310	14,160	11,166	11,879	12,564	12,146
World total	497,976	459,287	431,143	569,334	715,040	507,247
World total (excluding cider)	334,285	337,360	349,498	442,975	486,920	414,684

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 48 pounds except Argentina and Chile in 44 pound boxes. 1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes Syria. 3/ Included with Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information, and on the basis of postwar boundaries. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1948-51

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada	569	733	789	1,058	864	1,185
Mexico	331	508	629	631	639	661
United States	28,693	28,908	26,334	36,404	31,140	32,687
Total	29,593	30,149	27,752	38,093	32,643	34,533
EUROPE						
Austria:						
Dessert and cooking	950	700	1,164	1,102	1,764	1,703
Cider	5,416	3,991	5,450	7,055	7,495	6,800
Belgium and Luxembourg	2,126	3,380	1,570	11,403	6,065	4,827
Bulgaria	631	1,647	1,500	2,000	1,600	2,000
Czechoslovakia	4,070	1,619	4,123	4,037	4,000	4,000
Denmark	480	776	961	1,032	1,019	1,025
France:						
Dessert and cooking	1,760	3,051	4,629	6,584	6,295	5,207
Cider	21,776	12,453	11,302	18,459	33,774	13,758
Germany:						
Western Zone	11,891	12,469	9,000	18,000	25,750	11,680
Eastern Zone	3,964	2,794	2,100	4,050	5,800	2,600
Greece	878	1,014	988	1,675	838	1,393
Hungary	742	500	353	882	750	880
Italy	8,482	9,560	9,316	14,894	13,355	16,010
Netherlands	1,570	2,469	8,113	6,790	5,384	5,840
Norway	174	137	297	103	445	277
Poland and Danzig	2,200	1,900	2,000	2,200	2,500	1,500
Rumania	1,103	1,207	441	550	450	550
Spain	3,057	2,805	1,905	1,896	1,877	2,646
Sweden	1,063	771	794	1,852	1,808	1,323
Switzerland	7,037	12,654	9,259	9,700	17,637	8,818
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking	782	1,338	1,416	1,770	1,008	1,384
Cider	237	349	99	224	90	94
Yugoslavia	2,773	3,368	2,600	2,800	1,820	2,500
Total	83,162	80,952	79,380	119,058	141,524	96,815
Total (excluding cider)	55,733	64,159	62,529	93,320	100,165	76,163
ASIA						
Israel	16	10	22	18	21	20
Lebanon	2/ 24	72	265	146	146	154
Syria	3/	25	84	101	88	62
Turkey	3,466	2,595	2,493	4,461	3,172	3,720
Japan	7,366	6,607	2,829	3,067	3,448	3,141
Korea	775	796	2,000	900	500	500
Total	11,647	10,105	7,693	8,693	7,375	7,597
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	2,443	5,332	5,800	4,630	6,060	5,500
Chile	88	58	105	100	110	145
Total	2,531	5,390	5,905	4,730	6,170	5,645
AFRICA						
Tunisia	53	45	44	44	44	45
Union of South Africa	832	675	540	1,038	636	800
Total	885	720	584	1,082	680	845
OCEANIA						
Australia	2,467	2,788	3,125	2,861	3,715	4,000
New Zealand	328	347	461	406	525	375
Total	2,795	3,135	3,586	3,267	4,240	4,375
World total	130,613	130,451	124,900	174,92[illegible]	192,632	149,810
World total (excluding cider)	103,184	113,658	108,049	149,185	151,273	129,158

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 50 pounds except Argentina and Chile in 44 pound boxes. 1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes Syria. 3/ Included with Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information, and on the basis of postwar boundaries. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

In North America where production is dominated by the output in the United States, the crop totaled 35 million bushels or slightly more than the 33 million produced in 1950 and the prewar average of 30 million bushels. Canada also had a larger crop in 1951 than in recent years.

In Europe the pear crop (including ciders) totaled 97 million bushels in 1951 compared with 142 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 83 million bushels. The more important declines compared with 1950 occurred in Austria, Germany, Belgium, France and Switzerland. In Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia and Spain there were significant increases over a year earlier.

In the remainder of the pear-producing world, there were minor changes in the total output. Argentina has prospects of a smaller crop this season while in Australia and the Union of South Africa the outlook is for some increase.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

PALM OIL AND PALM KERNEL EXPORTS DECLINE IN 1951 1/

Palm oil and palm kernel exports in 1951 from the principal palm producing areas of the world declined somewhat from the levels of the 2 previous years, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Palm oil exports also were less than prewar after having exceeded prewar both in 1949 and in 1950. Kernel exports, although down from the previous 2 years, were, for the third successive year, larger than prewar.

Shipments of palm oil in 1951 are estimated at 522,000 short tons, a decrease of 5 percent or 25,000 tons from 1950, and 3 percent or 15,300 tons from prewar. The African Continent supplied 70 percent of the total, Indonesia 20 percent and the Federation of Malaya 10 percent. The decline in exports from the previous year is explained essentially by the drop in exports from Nigeria, the largest exporter since prewar and the source of about one-third of the 1951 total. Less significant decreases occurred in Malaya, French Cameroons, French Togo and Portuguese Africa. Exports from Indonesia and the French areas of Africa are still far short of prewar levels. On the other hand, sizable increases from prewar have occurred in the Belgian Congo, Portuguese Africa, British West Africa and Malaya.

1/ The palm oil and palm kernel situation is reviewed here in terms of exports, rather than production, because of more complete data regarding exports. A more extensive statement soon will be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.d

Table 1 - PALM OIL: Exports from principal producing countries, 1951 with comparisons
(Short tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
Africa:					
British					
Nigeria	153,980	155,908	190,562	193,770	167,722
Sierra Leone	1,943	2,480	3,705	2,173	3,000
Gold Coast	549	400	290	-	-
French					
West Africa	2/23,340	11,922	8,243	12,345	17,000
Equatorial Africa	6,314	2,633	4,311	3,168	4,000
Cameroons	9,842	2,592	6,924	5,225	2,915
Togo	1,842	904	467	880	600
Portuguese					
Angola	3,254	9,372	12,688	15,225	15,000
Guinea	950	760	1,306	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	1,640	2,504	2,216	3,136	3,000
Belgian Congo	72,450	121,680	133,627	143,443	145,522
Liberia	1,160	3,254	2,237	1,825	-
Total Africa	277,264	314,409	366,576	382,690	362,267
Malaya, Federation of	47,360	54,668	61,882	57,350	52,133
Indonesia	212,685	43,990	112,281	107,029	107,600
Total	537,309	413,067	540,739	547,069	522,000

1/ Preliminary estimate. 2/ Average 1934-38.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information.

Over 98 percent of Nigeria palm oil exports went to the United Kingdom and the Belgian Congo's record shipments went mainly to Belgium, the United States and the United Kingdom. The bulk of the palm oil from French West Africa and Angola followed the mother country route to France and Portugal, respectively. Indonesian exports were mainly to the Netherlands and the United Kingdom and over 90 percent of Malaya's palm oil exports went to the United Kingdom.

Exports of palm kernels in 1951 are estimated at 805,000 tons, 90,900 tons or 10 percent less than in 1950 but slightly (6,000 tons) greater than prewar. Africa supplied 95 percent of the total, Indonesia 3 percent and the Federation of Malaya 2 percent. The decrease from 1950 is accounted for largely by the sharp drop in sales from Nigeria and French West Africa with less significant declines occurring in French Cameroons and Angola.

Table 2 - PALM KERNELS: Exports from principal producing countries, 1951 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
Africa:					
British					
Nigeria	369,292	366,435	420,935	465,815	388,655
Sierra Leone	83,775	74,403	85,726	79,821	82,000
Gold Coast	7,987	7,840	2/ 8,000	-	-
Gambia	776	1,390	1,400	1,580	-
French					
West Africa	3/ 89,900	69,793	94,238	93,096	78,000
Equatorial Africa	14,283	8,337	9,389	9,138	10,000
Cameroons	39,470	33,212	39,912	31,785	29,374
Togo	13,775	8,941	5,540	14,018	10,000
Portuguese					
Angola	6,398	9,809	12,562	12,656	12,000
Guinea	13,400	13,361	19,061	2/ 19,000	-
Sao Tome and Principe	3,500	7,227	5,558	7,980	9,000
Belgian Congo	94,002	91,904	88,221	94,546	96,466
Liberia	10,130	19,671	19,629	21,770	-
Total Africa	746,688	712,323	810,171	859,205	764,075
Malaya, Federation of	8,132	7,249	9,793	10,168	13,225
Indonesia	44,134	12,212	31,585	26,560	27,700
Total	798,954	731,784	851,549	895,933	805,000

1/ Preliminary estimate. 2/ Estimated. 3/ Average 1934-38.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information.

Palm kernels also were exported mainly to Europe, with the United Kingdom taking most of Nigeria's surplus. Belgium and Germany were the most important outlets for the Congo, and France was supplied by French West Africa and the French Cameroons. The Netherlands took virtually all the palm kernels from Indonesia and more than half the kernels exported from Malaya.

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SPANISH 1951-52 PICKLED OLIVE PACK REVISED DOWNWARD

The 1951-52 season Spanish olive pack in the Seville district is estimated at 60,600 short tons (revised) compared with 43,800 tons in 1950 and 60,000 tons in 1949. The estimate was one of the largest on record and exceeds the 10-year (1939/40-1948/49) average of 35,800 tons by 69 percent and the 5-year (1944/45-1948/49) average of 37,100 tons by 63 percent. In addition to the above estimate for export types, Queens and Manzanillas, there were an additional 4,300 short tons of "non-export" types such as Moron and Rapazalla which will be used in the domestic markets.

In terms of hogsheads, this season's pack of Queens was 73,700 compared with 34,200 in 1950 and 70,500 in 1949. The pack of Manzanillas is estimated at 52,600 hogsheads compared with 57,000 in 1950 and 54,500 in 1949. A hogshead of olives is about 160 United States gallons. It is reported that of the above quantities about 55,000 hogsheads of Queens and 40,000 hogsheads of Manzanillas are suitable size and quality to interest United States and Canadian importers. This is the equivalent of about 8,800,000 gallons of Queens and 6,400,000 gallons of Manzanillas.

At the end of February stocks on hand were about equivalent to the season's pack which at first glance would lead one to believe no 1951-52 pack olives had been sold. However, this is not the case as there have been exports from the present pack. At the start of the season there was a substantial carry-over from the previous pack. A substantial part of the 1950 carryover remains at present still unsold.

According to available information, export sales this season from November to January 31, have totalled about 11,663 hogsheads (1,866,000 United States gallons) of Queens and 9,272 hogsheads (1,483,500 United States gallons) of Manzanillas. It is reported most of the above sales were from the 1951-52 pack. According to available information the following quantities were shipped to the United States and Canada for the period:

	U.S. Gallons
Queens, first quality	995,072
" second	229,600
" Azofairon	3,680
" " stuffed	50,496
Manzanilla	835,792
Pitted olives	39,168
Broken "	134,080
Total	2,287,888

The export season to date has been disappointing for Spanish exporters and volume is below normal for this season of the year. Foreign buyers are unwilling to pay the asking prices because of the very large supply available and in the United States large supplies of the previous year's imports have also tended to curtail imports this season.

SPAIN: Estimated production of pickled olives, 1951-52
with comparisons
(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Queens	Manzanillas	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:			
1939-40/1948-49	18,700	17,100	35,800
1944-45/1948-49	17,600	19,500	37,100
Annual:			
1944-45	8,600	14,400	23,000
1945-46	13,100	17,200	30,300
1946-47	33,600	28,800	62,400
1947-48	28,800	25,000	53,800
1948-49	3,800	12,000	15,800
1949-50	33,800	26,200	60,000
1950-51 1/	16,400	27,400	43,800
1951-52 1/	35,400	25,200	60,600

1/ Preliminary.

UNITED STATES: Imports of pickled olives from Spain
(Calendar year)

Year	Pitted or stuffed	Unpitted (in brine)	Total
	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons
Average:			
1942-51	5,896	2,874	8,770
1947-51	6,229	2,847	9,076
Annual:			
1946	8,070	1,822	9,892
1947	3,697	2,597	6,294
1948	7,108	3,785	10,893
1949	4,808	1,417	6,225
1950	8,261	3,620	11,881
1951	7,273	2,815	10,088
1952 1/	575	334	909

1/ 1 month only.

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of the Census.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and other information.

The official exchange rate for olive exports is 21.90 pesetas per dollar; however, exporters are permitted to sell 10 percent of their dollars on the free market which usually results in an equivalent rate of about 23.71 pesetas per dollar but even so United States buyers feel the price is still a little high. Recently 25,000 botadas of Italian chestnut staves were imported for olive barrels and hogsheads. A botada is about one-fifth of a metric ton or 440 pounds. The price was about $11 to $11.50 per botada.--By Walter R. Schreiber, based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

FRENCH MOROCCO'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION REVISED DOWNWARD; IMPORTS LOWER AND CONSUMPTION HIGHER

French Morocco's 1951 tobacco production is now estimated 16 percent below earlier preliminary estimates and 7 percent below the 1950 outturn, according to E. L. Stanger, Vice Consul, American Consulate, Rabat. Imports of leaf tobacco during 1951 were 29 percent below 1950. Consumption of unmanufactured tobacco during 1951 was 8 percent above 1950.

The country's 1951 tobacco production is now placed at 3.7 million pounds as compared with earlier estimates of 4.4 million pounds. The 1950 leaf output is estimated at 4.0 million pounds. Acreage planted to tobacco during 1951 is estimated at 4,550 acres, which is about the same as 1950.

Leaf imports during 1951 totaled 3.9 million pounds as compared with 5.5 million pounds in 1950. The United States, the most important 1951 leaf source, supplied 1.3 million pounds. The Dominican Republic, the second most important source, supplied 674,608 million pounds; Greece ranked third, with 440,920 pounds; and British Malaya, fourth, with 302,030 pounds. Other countries supplying French Morocco with leaf tobacco during 1951 included Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Argentina, Algeria, and Hungary. In addition to leaf, French Morocco imported 434,306 pounds of cigarettes, 26,455 pounds of cigars, and 6,614 pounds of smoking tobacco.

Consumption of unmanufactured tobacco during the 1951 calendar year totaled 7.7 million pounds as compared with 7.1 million pounds in 1950 and 6.5 million pounds in 1949.

BRAZIL'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION
REVISED DOWNWARD; EXPORTS LOWER

Brazil's 1951-52 tobacco production is now estimated substantially below earlier season forecasts, according to M. B. Lawrence and A. B. Kirchhof, American Consulate, Port Alegre. Exports of leaf and twist tobacco during January-September 1951 were 16 percent below the corresponding 1950 period.

The country's 1951-52 tobacco production is now placed at 194.2 million pounds as compared with earlier forecasts of 240.7 million pounds. This 19 percent decrease is reportedly attributable to drought conditions and cold weather during the growing season. The 1950-51 Brazilian tobacco crop is estimated at 232.3 million pounds. Acreage planted to tobacco for the 1951-52 crop is estimated at 298,000 acres as compared with 296,800 acres planted in 1950-51. Estimated yield per acre for 1951-52 is now 652 pounds as compared with earlier forecasts of 795 pounds per acre. The 1950-51 yield is estimated at 783 pounds per acre.

The present estimate for flue-cured leaf is 25 percent below earlier forecasts in Rio Grande do Sul. Currently, flue-cured production in this Brazilian State is placed at 30.9 million pounds as compared with previous forecasts of 41.0 million pounds. Rio Grande do Sul's 1950-51 flue-cured production is estimated at 40.6 million pounds. The Santa Catarina flue-cured harvest is currently estimated at only 3.5 million pounds as compared with 4.4 million pounds in 1950-51. Combined production of air-cured leaf in these two Brazilian States during 1951-52 is now estimated at 45.2 million pounds, or 38 percent below the previous forecasts of 73.0 million pounds and 37 percent below the previous year's output of 72.1 million pounds. Acreage planted to tobacco in these states this season were about equal to the 1950-51 acreage; however, as a result of unfavorable growing conditions, yields per acre reportedly are lower. Leaf production in Bahia during the 1951-52 season is now expected to be 33.1 million pounds as compared with earlier forecasts of 39.7 million pounds. This is a 17 percent decrease. Due to lack of data Minas Gerais' production estimate remains the same as earlier forecasts of 37.5 million pounds.

Exports of leaf and twist tobacco during the first 9 months (January-September) 1951 totaled 48.5 million pounds as compared with 57.4 million pounds in the corresponding 1950 period. Of the total tobacco exports, leaf constituted 47.7 million pounds and twist tobacco only 0.8 million pounds, the most of which was taken by Uruguay. Important 1951 Brazilian leaf outlet markets include the following in order of importance: the Netherlands, 10.2 million pounds; Germany, 7.4 million; Spain, 5.5 million; Switzerland, 3.8 million; Spanish Morocco, 3.1 million; Denmark, 3.0 million; and France, 2.6 million pounds.

FATS AND OILS

CEYLON'S EXPORTS OF COCONUT PRODUCTS, 1951

Ceylon's exports of copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, and fresh nuts during 1951 of 245,915 long tons, copra equivalent, were 23 percent above shipments in 1950, reports W. M. Kahmann, American Embassy, Colombo. Shipments during 1951 with 1950 totals in parentheses were as follows: copra--19,346 tons (21,117); coconut oil--109,782 tons (75,717), desiccated coconut--39,771 tons (44,909); and fresh coconuts--6.6 million nuts (8.6 million). Thus, coconut oil shipments were 45 percent above the previous year, while exports of copra, desiccated coconut, and fresh nuts decreased 9, 11, and 23 percent, respectively.

Pakistan, purchasing 8,471 tons of copra, and India, 5,678 tons, accounted for nearly three-fourths of the 1951 copra exports. The United Kingdom increased its takings of Ceylonese coconut oil from only 200 tons in 1950 to 29,674 tons in 1951. The Netherlands was the second largest buyer, accounting for 22,044 tons. The United Kingdom also took the bulk of the desiccated coconut (25,854 tons) and fresh nuts (4.9 million nuts).

Stocks of copra at the start of 1952 were believed to be lower than usual because the decline in prices in the world oilseed market influenced many traders to turn over their stocks before prices declined further.

During the fourth quarter of 1951, the Colombo market was characterized by much speculative buying with the prospect of the usual short supplies beginning in December. This together with the introduction of new export duties tended to keep the market firm although unusually heavy supplies forced a gradual decline throughout the quarter. The copra wholesale price at the end of December was 200 rupees per candy ($167.60 per long ton). Coconut oil at the end of the year sold at 1,300 rupees per long ton ($272.35). These prices do not include the export duty.

During January and February 1952, prices of coconut products continued to decline and, as a result, there has been a renewal of petitions from the trade for a further reduction of export duties (see Foreign Crops and Markets, February 18, 1952, page 130, "Ceylon Revises Export Duty on Coconut Products").

Production of coconuts during 1951 was estimated at 2.1 billion nuts. The total weight of the coconut crop was larger than usual, due to favorable weather conditions during the previous year. Domestic consumption in 1951 was placed at 622 million fresh nuts and 32,500 tons of coconut oil. By converting the coconut oil into the equivalent of fresh nuts, domestic consumption is approximately 40 percent of total production.

SPAIN REPORTS BUMPER
OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION 1/

Spain's olive oil output from the 1951 crop is probably the largest ever produced, reports R.E. Wilson, American Consulate, Seville. It is now believed that total production amounted to around 770,000 short tons--70,000 tons more than the pre-harvest forecast. This volume is roughly 4 times the small 1950 outturn and more than double the 1940-44 average.

For the first time since 1948, Spain can meet her domestic requirements for edible oil--about 385,000 tons--without importing seed oils to compensate for olive oil exports. In addition Spain will be able to maintain an adequate reserve for the future and still have more oil for export than has ever been shipped in a year.

Because of the bumper crop the yield of oil per unit of fruit is lower than usual. Insufficient storage space and inadequate milling and transportation facilities have resulted in the loss of some fruit through spoiling. Likewise with a bumper crop there has been less incentive or need to fully refine the lower quality oils. Moreover, the long delay in processing olives after picking tended to increase the acid content.

Even with the record crop, the Government still maintains price control and rationing of olive oil. It was necessary to maintain prices high enough to protect bankers who had advanced cash to farmers at the Government's direction and to protect growers in Jaen and other late producing areas against sharp price decreases. However, in order to move oil out of the warehouses and into consumers' homes, ration-card holders were allowed early in the year to purchase a 6-month's supply of oil.

Olive oil exports from Spain during 1951 amounted to 23,290 tons (plus 1,100 tons loaned to Portugal) compared with 39,119 tons in 1950. The United States purchased 14,464 tons or 62 percent of the total and Cuba, 4,367 tons or 19 percent.

The export price of Spanish olive oil in drums to the United States dropped from $95 per 100 kilograms (43 cents per pound), which prevailed throughout most of 1951, to $62 (28 cents) f.o.b. Spanish port, announced early in 1952.

Prospects for 1952 olive oil production are good despite heavy pruning of the olive trees and despite the fact that this normally should be the "off" year for olive production. Weather conditions throughout the past winter and early spring have been most favorable and growers predict another good crop.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

BELGIAN CONGO PRODUCES RECORD
TONNAGE OF PALM OIL

The production of palm oil and palm kernels in the Belgian Congo during 1951 has been estimated at new record levels, according to C.K. Bevilacqua, American Consulate General, Leopoldville. Although actual production statistics are not yet available, information on exports, consumption, and stocks during 1951 indicate that output exceeded the 1950 levels of 203,200 short tons of palm oil and 139,300 tons of palm kernels.

Exports of palm products in 1951 also established new records. Palm oil shipments of 145,522 tons, although only 2,000 tons above the previous year, represent a steady climb from the prewar average of 72,450 tons. The principal destinations were Belgium, accounting for 36 percent of the total; the United States, 26 percent; and the United Kingdom, 18 percent. Exports of palm kernels--96,466 tons--also about 2,000 tons above the year before, represent the largest volume exported since 1938. Belgium and Western Germany took the bulk of these shipments--39,460 and 34,223 tons, respectively. Palm kernel oil shipments totaled 20,837 tons, nearly one-third above 1950. Belgium received approximately one-half of these shipments.

Availability of palm oil for native consumption at controlled prices is guaranteed. The local manufacture of margarine, begun in 1950, is another consumption factor of growing importance. Domestic soap production and sales have increased.

Stocks of palm products have been held at or near maximum level for several months because of the low market prices. Prices dropped steadily from the record high in February 1951 when c.i.f. Antwerp prices were quoted at 29,000 francs per metric ton ($526 per short ton) for palm oil, 30,000 francs ($544) for kernel oil, and 15,400 francs ($279) for palm kernels. During December 1951 prices averaged 15,750 francs ($286) for palm oil, 17,000 francs ($308) for kernel oil, and 9,200 francs ($167) for palm kernels. In early March 1952 the palm oil price had declined still further to 10,750 francs ($195).

Export duties on palm products were lowered on March 13, 1952. The rate was reduced from 15 to 8 percent ad valorem for palm oil, from 15 to 12 percent on kernels, and from 5 to 3 percent on kernel oil.

INDIA'S PEANUT PRODUCTION
DOWN IN 1951-52

India's peanut production during the 1951-52 agricultural year is placed at 3,401,440 short tons (unshelled), according to the final official estimate reported by C.C. Taylor, Agricultural Counselor, American Embassy, New Delhi. This represents a decrease of 12 percent from the partially revised final estimate of 3,849,440 tons in 1950-51. Although 11,755,000 acres were planted in peanuts in 1951-52, or some 625,000 acres more than in the preceding season, the lack of adequate rains in parts of Bombay, Madras, Saurashtra and Madhya Bharat resulted in the decrease in production.

PORTUGAL'S OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION
EXCEEDS EARLIER EXPECTATIONS

Portugal's olive oil production from the 1951 crop is larger than previously forecast, according to James O. Howard, Agricultural Attache, Lisbon. Trade sources now believe that actual production may be around 105,000 short tons--over twice the 1950 production of 44,000 tons but less than the 1949 figure of 108,600 tons. Most pre-harvest forecasts placed olive oil production at 100,000 tons or less.

The increase in the production estimate was due in part to the high oil content of the olives, and in part to less weather and fly damage than had been expected. Moreover, the quality of the oil is good and comparable with the best years.

Consumption of edible olive oil in 1951 is estimated at around 72,000 tons. Stocks on March 1, 1952, were estimated at about 77,000 tons compared with 42,000 on March 1, 1951.

Exports of edible olive oil during 1951 totaled 4,843 tons compared with 5,675 in 1950. The largest quantities went to the United States and Brazil with 1,531 and 1,456 tons, respectively. The bulk of the remainder went to Portuguese possessions.

Imports totaled 4,400 tons, 3,300 tons from Tunisia and 1,100 tons loaned by Spain. With the exception of the quantity borrowed from Spain at a time when stocks were completely exhausted in Portugal, imports were mandatory to replace quantities exported. This policy is expected to continue in order to assure a carry-over of at least 27,500 tons to counterbalance any shortage which may develop in the coming "off" year.

Prices of edible olive oil for local consumption were fixed by the Ministry of Economy in October 1951 at the 1947 level. Export prices (official) quoted as of mid-March 1952 were as follows:

(1) To Brazil: 1,750 escudos f.o.b. Lisbon for cases of 50 one-kilogram tins, 1.5 degrees acidity. Actually, sales of this grade were being made up to March 1 below the official price at 1,650 escudos.

(2) To the United States: $45 f.o.b. Lisbon for cases of 50 one-kilogram tins, 1.5 degrees acidity (41 cents per pound).

Production of inedible olive oil, obtained largely by chemical process from the residues after edible oil is extracted by pressing, is estimated at about 6,600 tons in 1951 against around 2,800 in 1950.

Exports of inedible olive oil were prohibited from 1943 until 1949. In 1950 the increased availability of colonial oils for use in soap made it possible to permit exports of inedible olive oil. Of the total 4,815 ton-sales that year, the United States purchased 2,173 tons. Although there is a shortage of low-priced vegetable oils from the Portuguese Colonies, it is expected that exports of inedible olive oil--up to at least 3,300 tons--will continue to be permitted.

INDONESIAN COPRA EXPORTS FIRST
QUARTER 1952 ABOVE 1951

Exports of 90,650 long tons of copra from Indonesia during January-March 1952 were above shipments in the corresponding first quarter of 1951 by over 5,000 tons. Total shipments for the year 1952 are forecast by the Copra Foundation at approximately 345,000 tons against actual shipments during 1951 of 458,729 tons.

March shipments were consigned as follows: Western Germany--13,325 tons; the Netherlands--10,334; France--5,184; Denmark--2,624; Austria--1,456; and Norway--1,049 tons. The largest volume of copra during the first quarter was purchased by Western Germany--29,194 tons.

Purchases of copra during March were reported at 33,100 tons with 30,500 tons in East Indonesia and 2,600 tons in West Borneo. Deliveries to oil mills totaled 9,076 tons.

Copra buying prices in East Indonesia remain at 85 rupiahs per quintal ($75.76 per long ton) and are guaranteed until April 15.

STATE OF SAO PAULO ANNOUNCES
IMPROVED SOYBEAN VARIETY

A new variety of soybeans is now available in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, which will yield 3,000 to 4,000 kilograms per alqueire (18-24 bushels per acre) when well inoculated and planted on well-limed soil. According to Hubert Maness, Agricultural Officer, American Consulate General, Sao Paulo, a fair supply of the seed is available for planting and the soybean area will be greatly expanded.

Soybeans have been grown in Sao Paulo for about 30 years, following introduction by the Japanese and by the Instituto Agronomico. Yields have been comparatively low and many varieties were unsuccessful. About 3 years ago, because of the shortage of vegetable oils in Sao Paulo and the need for a legume to grow in rotation with cotton, a special effort was made to develop this high yielding variety resistant to disease and nematodes.

(Brazilian soybean production is centered in Rio Grande do Sul and output has expanded rapidly in that State during the past few years. From around 25,000 bushels in the early 1940's, production increased to 100,000 bushels by the mid-1940's and the 1949-50 crop passed the million mark. In 1950-51 Rio Grande do Sul's crop nearly doubled and exceeded 2 million bushels. A further increase is expected there for 1951-52.)

NEW COCONUT OIL PROCESS
ON TRIAL IN PHILIPPINES

A new patented process for obtaining coconut oil direct from the fresh coconut has been adopted and used in the Philippines since early this year by a plant in Calamba, Laguna Province, according to Agricultural Attache Merrill W. Abbey and J. T. Dickmeyer, American Embassy, Manila. Although the Calamba plant is capable of extracting daily about 5.5 short tons of coconut oil from some 40,000 fresh coconuts, the commercial possibilities of the new process are not yet known. However, should the Calamba operation prove successful, similar plants will be constructed in Davao, Cebu, Leyte, Bohol, Misamis Oriental, Agusan, Surigao, and Samar.

Research and experimentation in developing this new process, which eliminates the necessity of first producing copra, have been conducted in the last 14 years. Under the so-called "R-L process," named after its developers Messrs. Robledano and Luzuriago, a high-grade coconut oil is obtained. With the free fatty acid content reported to be less than 0.10 percent, the oil needs no refining. However, deodorization with steam, if only to destroy the organisms causing fermentation, is necessary if the oil is to be stored.

While the machines necessary to the R-L process can be erected in the centers of the various coconut regions, thereby eliminating the usual steps of first making and then transporting copra to the refineries, there are several economic problems that remain to be solved before this process will be widely adopted. Briefly, the major problems are these: (1) Plant and machinery costs are high in relation to production capacity; (2) the new process extracts only 84-86 percent of the oil in the coconut in contrast with an extraction of 96 percent of the oil from copra under the traditional method; (3) since the resultant oil is essentially refined, its transportation on land or sea would be much more costly because of the requirement of stainless-steel or glass-lined tanks; (4) labor requirements are considerably higher than under usual methods of producing oil; (5) numerous problems exist in relation to proper location of plants, transportation, and control over harvesting of ripe nuts; and (6) designed primarily for production on a small scale, the process appears uneconomic--and particularly so in producing for foreign markets.

About 90 percent of the copra equivalent of coconut products produced in the Philippines normally is exported.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

RICE IMPORTS PROVIDED IN JAPAN'S FOREIGN-EXCHANGE BUDGET

In the foreign-exchange budget of the Japanese Government for April-September 1952 which was adopted March 28, provision was made for grain imports, of which rice imports are allocated as follows: from the dollar areas, 150,000 metric tons (331 million pounds), from the sterling areas, 100,000 tons (220 million pounds), and from open account, 250,000 tons (551 million pounds). The total allowance for rice imports therefore is 500,000 metric tons (1,102 million pounds). This program is subject to revision, inasmuch as the budget contains a contingency reserve to allow for additional purchases.

Japan before World War II depended on annual rice imports of 1,800,000 metric tons (4,000 million pounds), virtually all of which was supplied by Korea and Taiwan (Formosa). Rice imports from these sources since the war have been limited to a few thousand tons. Imports into Japan from other countries, however, have risen steadily since world allocations of rice ended in December 1949 under the International Emergency Food Committee.

Rice imports into Japan during 1950 and 1951 totaled 671,000 metric tons (1,480 million pounds) and 775,000 tons (1,709 million pounds), respectively. Imports during 1951 were from the following countries in metric tons (million pounds in parentheses): Thailand 323 (712); Egypt 176 (388); Burma 148 (326); Taiwan 80 (176); United States 25 (55); Italy 9 (20); Brazil 6 (13); China 6 (13); and Belgian Congo 2 (4).

PHILIPPINES TO IMPORT RICE

Rice stocks of the Philippine National Rice and Corn Corporation for distribution in urban areas were reported as of April 1 sufficient only for a 3-month supply, according to recently published news releases in that country. Negotiations have been underway to purchase 50,000 metric tons (110 million pounds) each from Burma and Thailand with no concrete results. Bids for an additional 50,000 tons may be opened soon.

Every effort is being made to procure rice from nearby areas, as such rice is less expensive than that from more distant countries, with respect to both original price and transportation costs. It may be necessary, however, to purchase rice elsewhere than in Asia depending on the overall supply situation in the Orient.

Philippine importers prefer a non-glutinous, hard, long-grain type of rice. Rexora and Patna types, and the other long grains to a lesser extent, are acceptable to the Philippine trade. Firm offers to NARIC and Philippine importers appear now to be in order and trade opportunities should be followed closely in ensuing months.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1952	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Spot quotation	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Export & intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG	4-10	99.05 lbs.	Tallari			
Ashmouni, Good	"	"	"			
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	Closed	Holy	Week
Karnak, FG	"	"	"			
Karnak, Good	"	"	"			
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"			
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 640.00	17.15	10.72
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	2/ 775.00	20.77	10.72
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	4-9	82.28 lbs.	"	92.00	33.73	13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	94.00	34.46	13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	96.00	35.20	13.85
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	4-8	101.4 lbs.	Sol	507.00	32.63	10.46
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	476.00	30.68	8.43
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	600.00	38.67	8.11
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	4-10	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	3/ 275.00	45.24	2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	3/ (not quoted)		valorem
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	3/4/345.00	56.76	" "
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	4-9	"	"	266.00	43.76	3.0% ad
Torreon		Sp. quintal				valorem
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	Closed	Holy	Week
Houston-Galveston/New						
Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	4-10	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	41.47	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Reported 640.00 to 660.00 (17.69). Ceiling 820.00 (21.98).
2/ Reported 775.00 to 795.00 (21.31). Ceiling 925.00 (24.79).
3/ Prices received too late for inclusion in last week's table: Recife, April 3, 1952, in cruzeiros per arroba with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Sertao, Type 4, 350.00 nominal (57.58); Sertao, Type 5, not quoted; Mata, Type 4, 265.00 (43.60); taxes 2.4% ad valorem.
4/ Nominal.

1951-52 SWISS COTTON IMPORTS SOMEWHAT BELOW 1950-51

Imports of cotton into Switzerland during August 1951 through February 1952, the first 7 months of the 1951-52 season, totaled 133,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), somewhat below the 149,000 bales imported during the corresponding period of 1950-51, according to O. B. Moussman of the American Consulate General staff at Zurich. More than 60 percent, or 83,000 bales, of imports thus far during the current season originated in the United States, compared with only 20 percent, or 30,000 bales, imported from the United States during the first 7 months of 1950-51. Imports from Egypt decreased from 42,000 bales during August through February 1950-51 to 18,000 bales in the same months of 1951-52. Sizable imports were also received from Mexico and Peru, although quantities from both these sources have decreased during the current season compared with the preceding season.

Consumption of cotton in Swiss spinning mills during the first 6 months of 1951-52 amounted to 80,000 bales, about 8 percent above the 74,000 bales consumed during the same months of 1950-51. It is forecast that mill consumption in the 1951-52 season will about equal the 148,000 bales consumed in 1950-51.

Production of cotton yarn during the first half of the current season amounted to 32 million pounds, compared with 30 million pounds produced in the first 6 months of 1950-51. In recent months few new orders have been received by the spinning mills, although accumulated orders should keep most of the mills operating at a high level until the end of August 1952. The weaving mills, on the other hand, do not have sufficient orders on hand at present to continue at the current level of operations. During 1951 inventories of cotton cloth with distributors increased steadily as a result of enlarged output by the mills and decreased sales to consumers. In addition, the favorable balance of trade enjoyed by cotton textiles in 1950 was reversed in 1951, with imports of cotton yarn and cloth exceeding exports.

1951-52 COTTON PRODUCTION IN TURKEY

The 1951-52 cotton crop in Turkey has been estimated at 712,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), following a survey of the principal producing regions by a group of government representatives, according to Laurell L. Scranton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ankara. Earlier estimates of the current season's crop ranged from about 630,000 bales to as high as 780,000 bales. The latest estimate of the 1951-52 crop is about 31 percent above the 542,000 bales produced in 1950-51.

Prices of Turkish cotton have declined steadily from the peak reached in the latter part of 1951. For example, Acala Type I cotton on the Adana market reached its peak for the current season at the equivalent of 78 U.S. cents a pound on November 12, 1951, but declined to about 61 cents during the first week of January 1952 and continued downward to a low point of

39 cents on March 7. By mid-March, the price had recovered somewhat to 45 cents a pound. The decline was attributed to the lack of export demand. On February 17, 1952, the Turkish Government authorized the Cotton Cooperative Unions to make supporting purchases of cotton for government account on the local markets to prevent Turkish cotton prices from going below the world prices for comparable qualities. Financial backing was provided by the government for these purchases. While actual purchases have not been large the plan apparently has had a steadying effect on the market and sales have picked up somewhat since that time.

Exports of cotton from Turkey in the period August 1, 1951, to February 15, 1952, the only period for which statistics are available, totaled only 133,000 bales compared with exports of 320,000 bales during August through February 1950-51. During the current season about 74 percent of exports, or 98,000 bales, have been shipped to Western Germany, with 10,000 bales exported to Czechoslovakia and smaller quantities to France and the United Kingdom.

C O R N - (Continued from Page 307)

Production in South America is estimated at 440 million bushels. Though slightly above the small crop of a year ago, this is only 77 percent of the pre-war average (1935-39). The most significant feature of the South American situation is the continuation of limited supplies available for export from Argentina, traditionally an important exporter. The current crop estimate of 120 million bushels, the third successive short crop for that country, offers only limited possibilities for export. Carryover on April 1, the beginning of the marketing season, was small, and it now seems probable that exports will not exceed the low level of the 1950-51 season. On the basis of incomplete information, exports for the season ended March 31, 1952 totaled about 20 million bushels. That figure contrasts with the 1935-39 average of 240 million bushels and the peak exports of about 360 million in 1937.

Corn production is of little significance in Oceania, and the current outlook is for a crop of less than 5 million bushels. More than 90 percent of the total is grown in Australia.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.